

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

1. Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 27, and ending on page 19, line 2, as follows:

FIG. 17 is a microscopic photograph of a semiconductor structure containing a silicon nitride film oxidized by the ~~conventional~~ oxidizing method according to the present invention; and

2. Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 19, line 3, and ending on page 19, line 6, as follows:

FIG. 18 is a microscopic photograph of a semiconductor structure containing a silicon nitride film oxidized by the conventional oxidizing method ~~according to the present invention~~.